**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO REMEMBER AND HONOR THE HEROIC RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR AND TO DECLARE MARCH 25, 2022, AS “MEDAL OF HONOR DAY” IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, created in 1861, the Medal of Honor is the highest military honor awarded in the United States of America. It is awarded only to United States military personnel by the President of the United States in the name of Congress for personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty; and

Whereas, three versions of the Medal of Honor exist: one for the Army, one for the Navy, and one for the Air Force, with personnel of the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard receiving the Navy version; and

Whereas, Secretary of War Edwin Stanton presented the first Medals of Honor (Army) to six members of Andrews Raiders on March 25, 1863, for volunteering for and participating in an American Civil War raid in April 1862; and

Whereas, since its creation, 3,468 Medals of Honor have been awarded to the country’s soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and coastguardsmen; and

Whereas, first conceived in the State of Washington, the United States Congress designated March 25 of each year as National Medal of Honor Day in 1990, a day dedicated to recognizing all Medal of Honor recipients, because it was on that date that the first recipients were so honored; and

Whereas, South Carolinians are encouraged to honor this day and the veterans it salutes by engaging in such activities as volunteering for local veteran organizations, donating to a veteran‑service organization, adopting a Medal of Honor gravesite, flying the United States flag, visiting local memorial sites or the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, Virginia; and

Whereas, because National Medal of Honor Day needs wider recognition and celebration, patriotic South Carolinians can show the patriotism of the Palmetto State by recognizing, remembering, and honoring our Medal of Honor heroes. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, remember and honor the heroic recipients of the Medal of Honor and declare March 25, 2022, as “Medal of Honor Day” in the State of South Carolina.

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